

# Beauty AND THE BEAST

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# *Beauty* AND THE BEAST







Once upon a time, there was a rich merchant who had three daughters. The two older girls were selfish, but the youngest, Beauty, was gentle and kind.





One day, all but one of the merchant's ships were lost in a storm.









The merchant—suddenly poor—set off to see what remained of his fortune. But he got lost in a terrible storm. A light glimmered off in the distance, and as he approached he saw that it was a palace.



He went towards the great house. The door swung open as if he was expected, but the house was empty. He entered a room where a meal was laid out for one person. He sat down and ate, and then he found a bed to sleep in.







In the morning, since he couldn't find anyone to thank for his stay, he decided to leave. On his way, he picked a flower from a rosebush. "This is for Beauty," he said to himself. Then he heard an awful roar!













A huge beast appeared. “I feed you and give you shelter,” roared the beast, “and now you steal from me!”

“My lord, the rose was for my daughter,” pleaded the merchant, trembling.



“My name is Beast!” snarled the creature. “I will spare your life if one of your daughters comes to live with me willingly.”







When the terrified merchant arrived home and told his story, Beauty offered to go.



Beauty and her father arrived at the palace, and it seemed empty. But a mouth-watering meal was set for them. As they sat down to





eat, Beast appeared. "Your father must leave tomorrow and never come back!"

Beauty's father left the next day, and Beauty was sad. But Beast was very gentle with her, and Beauty soon grew fond of him.





One day, he gave her a magic mirror, so she could see her father.







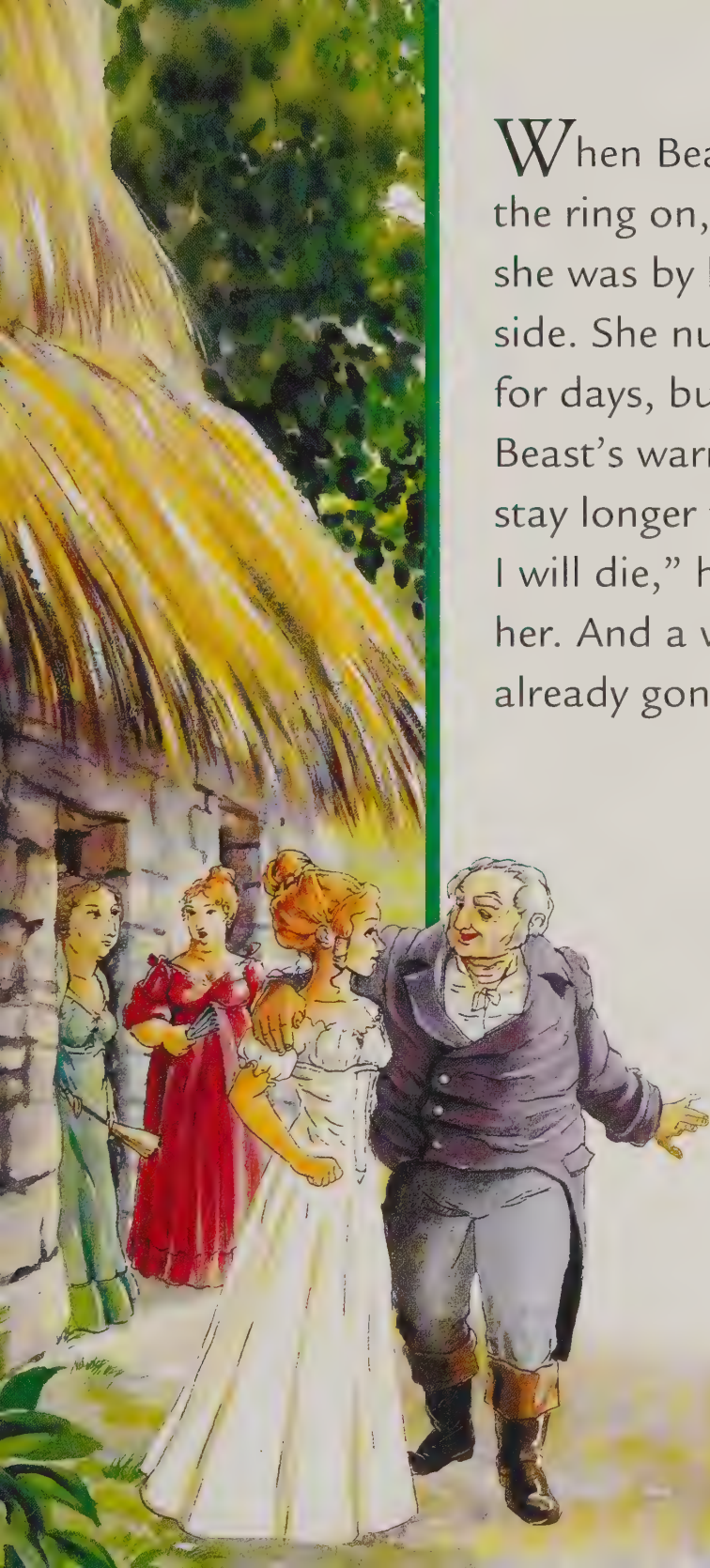
Beauty looked into the mirror and saw that her father was ill. “Go to him,” said Beast, as he gave her a ring. “Wear this ring, and it will take you home. Take it off when you wish to return.”

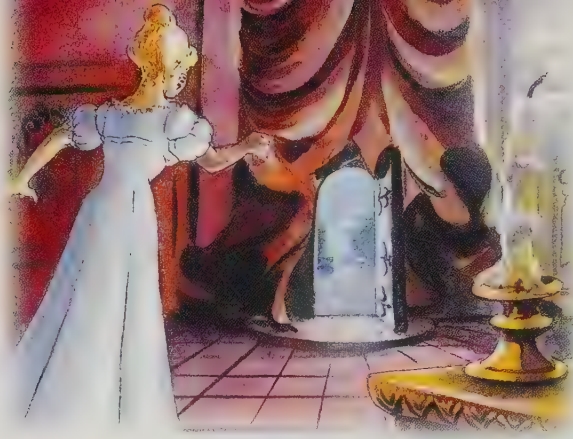




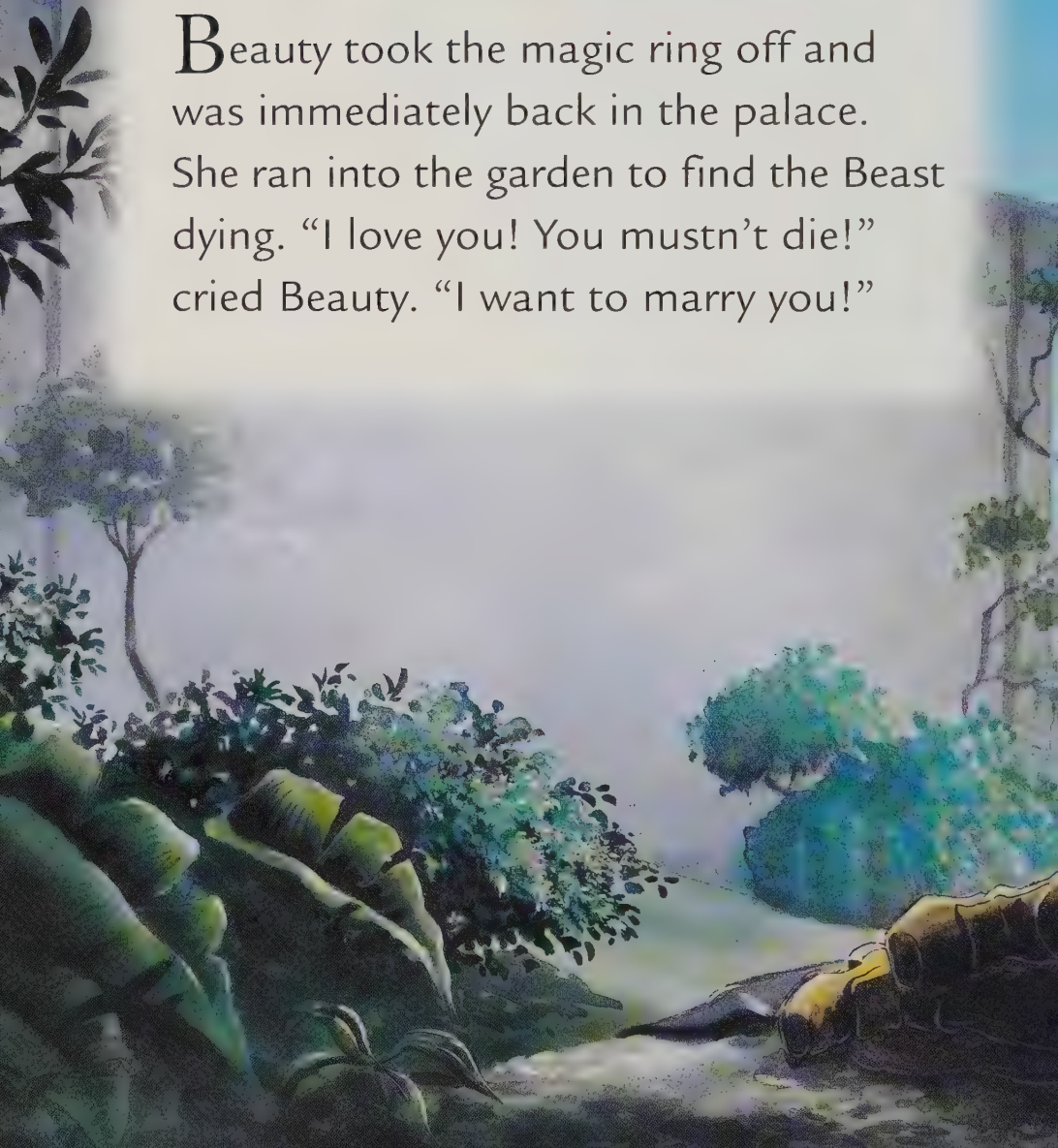


When Beauty slipped the ring on, instantly she was by her father's side. She nursed him for days, but she forgot Beast's warning. "If you stay longer than a week, I will die," he had told her. And a week had already gone by!





**B**eauty took the magic ring off and was immediately back in the palace. She ran into the garden to find the Beast dying. “I love you! You mustn’t die!” cried Beauty. “I want to marry you!”



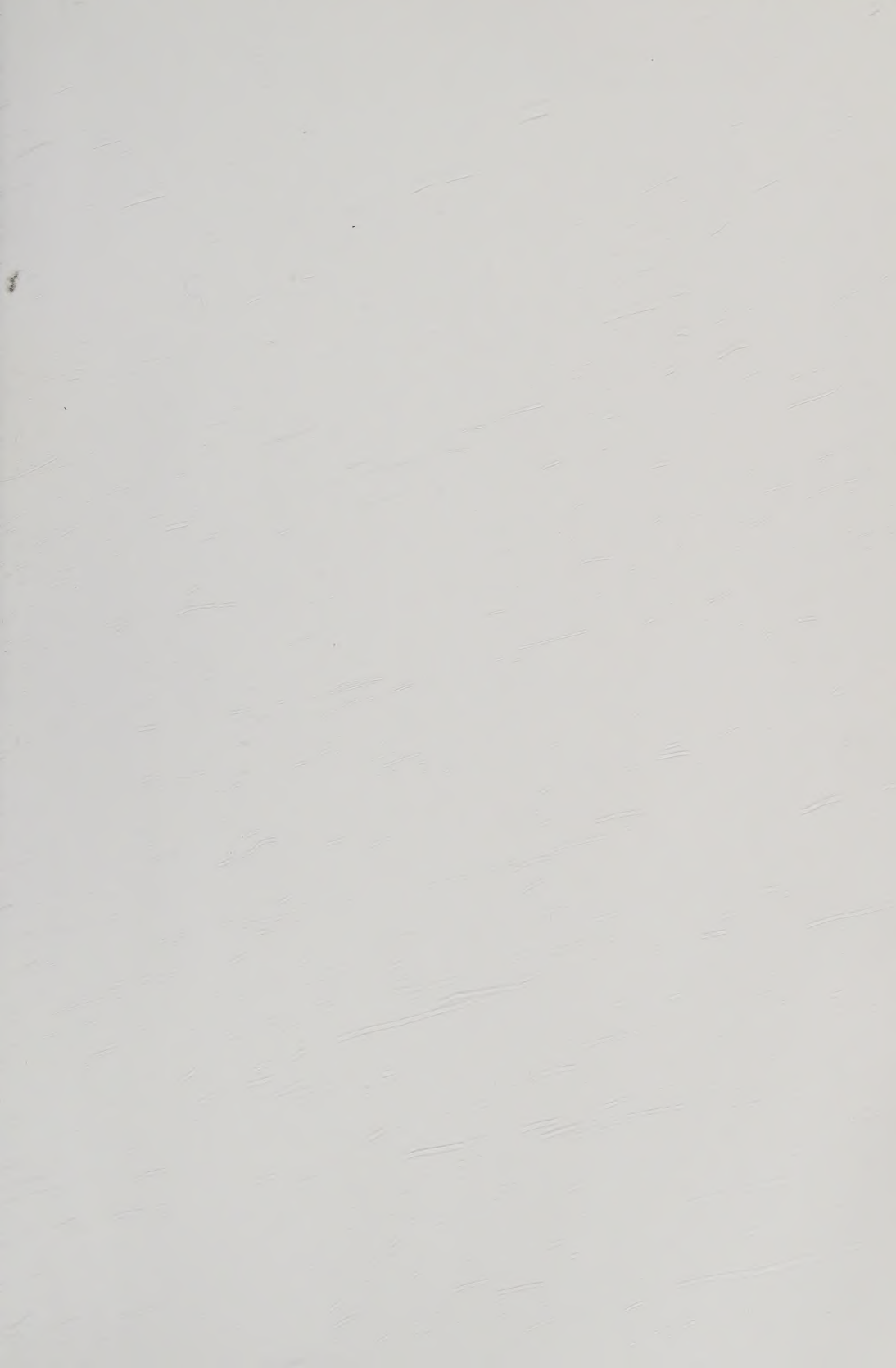






Suddenly a handsome prince took Beast's place. "Beauty, my love, you broke the spell," said the prince. "I was cursed to remain a beast until someone could love me for myself." The couple married and lived happily in the palace.













## TORMONT

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